2008 Post-Election Voting Survey of Overseas Citizens

You have been randomly selected to participate in this survey. Your answers to these questions, along with your comments or opinions, can help change the voting process to make it easier to vote. Absentee ballots are crucial in ensuring that United States citizens residing outside the United States can vote.

Agency Disclosure Notice (ADN)

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing the instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Department of Defense, Executive Services Directorate (0704-0125). Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR FORM TO THE ABOVE ORGANIZATION, RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:

[Insert Address Here]

Privacy Act Statement

This survey does not collect or use personally identifiable information and is not retrieved by personal identifier. Therefore, the information collected is not subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. § 552a).

Informed Consent Information for 2008 Post-Election Voting Survey of Overseas Citizens

This notice informs you of the purpose of the 2008 Post-Election Voting Surveys and how the findings of these surveys will be used. Please read it carefully.

Authority: 42 United States Code, Section 1973ff

Principal Purpose: This survey is conducted by the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), which informs and educates United States citizens of their voting rights and fosters participation in the democratic process.

Reports will be provided to the President and to Congress.

Please take a few minutes to complete and return this survey. You may also complete this survey using the Internet. We strongly urge you to use the electronic version because it takes less time to complete than the paper version. To access the Internet version, go to:

www.drcsurveys.com/FVAP-OC

Your access code is on the back page of this survey.

Disclosure: Providing information on this survey is voluntary. Your survey responses will be treated as private.

Returning this survey indicates your agreement to participate in this research.

Family members include your spouse and

7.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

			railing members include your spouse and
	BACKGROUND INFORMATION		anyone of voting age (18 years old and older) who is related to you by blood, marriage, or
1.	Were you a U.S. citizen on November 4, 2008?		adoption, and depends on you for more than half of their support. Not counting yourself, how many family members who were at least
	No - stop here and return the survey		18 years old lived with you at your current residence as of November 4, 2008?
 3. 	What was your age on November 4, 2008? ☐ 17 years old or younger - stop here and return the survey ☐ 18 to 24 years old ☐ 25 to 29 years old ☐ 30 to 34 years old ☐ 35 to 44 years old ☐ 45 years old or older ☐ 2008, were you registered to vote in the	8.	 ○ 0 ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5 or more Your legal voting residence is the state where you last resided immediately prior to your departure from the U.S. This right extends to
Э.	U.S.? Yes No		overseas citizens even though they may no longer own property or have other ties to their last state of residence and their intent to return to that state may be uncertain. As of the November 4, 2008 election, what state or
4.	On November 4, 2008, how long had you lived outside the U.S.? Less than 1 year 1 year to less than 3 years 3 years to less than 6 years		territory was your legal voting residence? Please enter the state or territory in the box below.
	6 years to less than 10 years		2008 ELECTION
5.	On November 4, 2008, in what overseas country were you residing? <i>Please enter the name of the country in the box below.</i>	9.	How interested or uninterested were you in the U.S. elections held on November 4, 2008? Very interested Somewhat interested Neither interested nor uninterested
6.	On November 4, 2008, how long had you resided in this country? Less than 6 months 6 months to less than 1 year 1 year to less than 2 years 2 years to less than 3 years 3 years or more		Somewhat uninterested Very uninterested
	_		

10.	A lot of people were not able to vote because they weren't registered, they were sick, they didn't have time, or something else happened to prevent them from voting. And sometimes, people who USUALLY vote or who PLANNED to vote forget that something UNUSUAL happened on election day this year that prevented them from voting THIS time. So please think carefully for a minute about the election held on November 4, and past elections in which you may have voted, and answer the following questions. During the past 6 years, did you usually vote in national, state, and local elections, or did you usually		j. The absentee voting process was too complicated
	not vote?	14.	Even though you did not vote, did you request an absentee ballot for the November 4, 2008
	Usually voted		election?
	Usually did not vote		Yes
11.	During the months leading up to the election held on November 4, did you ever plan to vote in that election are didn't you plan to vote?		No, but I automatically received an absentee ballot from a local election official ⇒ GO TO QUESTION 27
	in that election, or didn't you plan to vote? Did plan to vote		No, and I never received an absentee ballot ⇒ GO TO QUESTION 27
	Did not plan to vote		
			ABSENTEE BALLOTS
12.	In the election held on November 4, did you definitely vote in person on election day, definitely mail or fax a completed absentee ballot on or before November 4, definitely not vote, or are you not completely sure whether	15.	In what month did you first request your absentee ballot for the November 4, 2008 election?
	you voted in that election? Definitely voted in person ⇒ GO TO		July 2008 or earlier
	QUESTION 27		August 2008
	Definitely voted by mail ⇒ GO TO QUESTION 15		September 2008 October 2008
	Definitely did not vote		
	Not sure ⇒ GO TO QUESTION 27		November 2008
13.	Did you <u>not</u> vote in the November 4, 2008		Do not recall
	election for the following reasons? Mark Yes or No for each reason.	16.	The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) (Standard Form 76) is a request for registration and a regular (as opposed to back-up)
	No		absentee ballot. Did you use the FPCA to
	Yes		request your absentee ballot for the November 4, 2008 election or did you use another
	a. I was not interested in voting		method?
	b. I was too busy to vote		I used the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)
	c. I forgot to vote		I used another method (<i>Please specify</i>) ⇒ GO
	d. I could not register to vote		TO QUESTION 18
	e. I had no candidate preference		
	f. I did not think my vote would matter		
	g. I did not know how to get an absentee ballot		
	h. My absentee ballot arrived too late		
	i. My absentee ballot did not arrive at all		

17. Did you obtain your Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to request your regular absentee ballot for the November 4, 2008 election from any of the following sources? Mark "Yes" or "No" for each source listed.

			No
		Yes	
a.	From the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)		
b.	Through military channels	\times	\times
c.	From a U.S. Embassy or consulate		\boxtimes
d.	From an overseas organization or company		\boxtimes
e.	From a state or local election official	🔀	\boxtimes
f.	Online from the Internet	\mathbb{X}	\times
g.	From a military post office	\times	X
h.	Some other reason (If yes, please specify)		\boxtimes

18. During 2008, did you receive notification from the local election official in the county/district where you registered to vote that your regular absentee ballot request had been received?

Yes	X	Yes
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X No

No not recall

19. Did you receive your regular absentee ballot for the November 4, 2008 election?

X Yes

No ⇒ GO TO QUESTION 23

20. When did you receive your regular absentee ballot for the November 4, 2008 election?

July 2008 or earlier

August 2008

September 2008

October 2008

November 2008

Do not recall

21. Did you complete and return your regular absentee ballot for the November 4, 2008 election?

X Yes

No ⇒ GO TO QUESTION 23

22. When did you complete and return your regular absentee ballot for the November 4, 2008 election?

July 2008 or earlier

August 2008

September 2008

October 2008

November 2008

No not recall

23. The Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) (Standard Form 186) is a back-up ballot completed and returned if you are overseas and do not receive your regular absentee ballot. Did you use the FWAB in the November 4, 2008 election?

X Yes

No ⇒ GO TO QUESTION 26

24. Did you obtain your Federal Write-In Application (FWAB) for the November 4, 2008 election from the following sources? *Mark* "Yes" or "No" for each source listed.

		Yes
a.	From the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) Web site	
b.	From some other contact with FVAP	
c.	Through military channels	\mathbb{X}
d.	From a U.S. Embassy or consulate	\mathbb{X}
e. f.	From a state or local election official From an overseas organization or company	🔀
g.	From another non-FVAP Web site	
٦.	From a military post office	\times
	Some other source (If yes, please specify)	

25. When did you complete and return the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the November 4, 2008 election?

September 2008

October 2008

November 2008

Do not recall

26.	use the Novem	s the ONE MAIN REASON you did not be Federal Write-In Ballot (FWAB) for the laber 4, 2008 election? Mark only one. Id not know about the FWAB new about it, but didn't know how to get one lad difficulty filling it out lad already returned a regular absentee ballot one other reason (Please specify)		() () () () () ()	Overall, in 2008, how satisfied or dissature you with the information or assist you received from your embassy or convoting Assistance Officer (VAO)? Very satisfied Satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Did you not receive voting information assistance from your embassy or consumption of the following reasons? Mark "Yes" for each item.	ance nsulate or ulate 8 for ai	ny
27.		VOTING ASSISTANCE Assistance Officers (VAOs) are			Does not apply; I received voting informati assistance from an embassy or consulate ⇒ GO TO QUESTION 31		
		ated individuals who provide accurate, artisan voting information and assistance					No
	•	ens who wish to vote. Embassies and				Yes	1
		ates have assigned VAOs to carry out		L			
		sponsibility. During 2008, did you evoting information or assistance from		ć	 I did not know I could get information or assistance from the VAO 	X	X
		passy or consulate VAO?		ŀ	b. I did not have a VAO		X
	X Yes	·		(c. I did not know who my VAO was		X
	No.	⇒ GO TO QUESTION 30		(d. I did not know how to contact my VAO	\	X
					e. My VAO was not available when I		
28.		2008, did you receive the following		4	needed assistancef. My VAO was not helpful when I needed		
		ation or assistance from your embassy sulate Voting Assistance Officer (VAO)?		'	assistance		X
		Yes" or "No" for each item.		Ç	g. My VAO did not have the materials or information I needed	\times	X
		No		ŀ	h. I did not need any voting information or		
		Yes			assistance	X	X
		les	7	İ	i. Some other reason (If yes, please specify)		X
	b. Und	ermining my eligibility to votederstanding the absentee voting			7, 11, 11, 11, 11, 11, 11, 11, 11, 11, 1		
	•	cess	7				
	App d. Cor	plication (FPCA) mpleting the Federal Post Card	31		The Federal Voting Assistance Progran Web site, <u>www.fvap.gov</u> provides votin		
	e. Obt	blication (FPCA)	<u> </u> 	i	information and resources. In preparat the 2008 primaries and general election	ion for	
	f. Cor	Iot (FWAB)mpleting the Federal Write-In Sentee Ballot (FWAB)		}	you visit this Web site? Yes		
		ding information on candidates/issues		i	No ⇒ GO TO QUESTION 34		
	-	ctronic transmission of election	7				
		terials (i.e., faxing, e-mailing)	7				
		me other voting information or istance (If yes, please specify)					

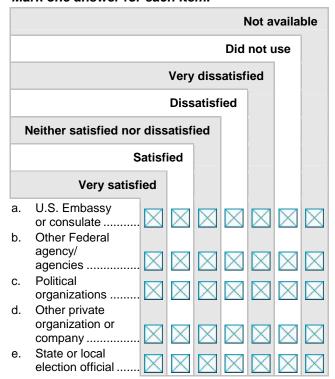
32.	In preparation for the 2008 primaries and general election, how many times did you visit the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) Web site? <i>Mark one</i> .	36.	Ass	ere did you obtain the 2008-09 Voting sistance Guide (VAG)? Mark "Yes" or each item.		,
	One					No
					Yes	
	Two to four		a.	From the embassy or consulate Voting	7	
	Five to ten			Assistance Officer (VAO)	\times	\times
	Eleven or more			From the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) Web site		\boxtimes
	Do not recall		c.	From another Web site on the Internet	\times	X
33	Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you		d.	From a CD ROM	\times	X
JJ.	with the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) Web site when you visited it in 2008?		e.	Some other source (If yes, please specify)		\boxtimes
	Very satisfied					
	Satisfied Satisfi					
	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	37.	Dur	ring 2008, were you looking for the fol	lowin	g
	Dissatisfied			ormation in the 2008-09 Voting Assista		
	Very dissatisfied		iten	ide (VAG)? Mark "Yes" or "No" for ea n.	cn	
34	Did you not visit the Federal Voting Assistance					No
О -т.	Program (FVAP) Web site in 2008 for any of the following reasons? <i>Mark</i> "Yes" or "No" for				Yes	
	each item.		a.	How to register and vote absentee	\times	\times
	Does not apply; I visited the FVAP Web site in 2008 ⇒ GO TO QUESTION 35		b.	Dates of elections and deadlines	\times	\times
				How to fill out the Federal Post Card		∇
	No			Application (FPCA) for your state Mailing address for Federal Post Card		
	Yes			Application (FPCA) or ballot	\times	\boxtimes
	a. I did not know about it			How to transmit the Federal Post Card	X	∇
				Application (FPCA) or voted ballot by fax How to use the Federal Write-In		
	b. I did not have Internet access			Absentee Ballot (FWAB)	\times	\times
	site address		g.	Web site addresses	\times	\times
	d. I got all the information I needed from		h.	Where to go for help	\times	X
	other sources		i.	Other type of voting related information		∇
	e. I did not think it would be useful			(If yes, please specify)		
	specify)					
35.	The Department of Defense 2008-09 Voting					
	Assistance Guide (VAG) provides state-by- state information about registering to vote and requesting an absentee ballot. In preparation for the 2008 primaries and general election, did you refer to the VAG for information about registering to vote or requesting an absentee ballot?					
	X Yes					
	No ⇒ GO TO QUESTION 39					
	M 140 7 00 10 QUEUTION 00					

38.	Overall, how would you rate the 2008-09 Voting Assistance Guide (VAG) as a reference on absentee voting procedures? ☐ Does not apply; I used or referred someone ro the FVAP toll-free telephone service ⇒ GO TO QUESTION 39 ☐ Excellent ☐ Very good ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor Did you not use the 2008-09 Voting Assistance Guide (VAG) for any of the following reasons?	Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the assistance you received in 2008 when you called the Federal Voting Assistance Program's (FVAP) toll-free telephone service? Very satisfied Satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Did you not use the Federal Voting Assistance Program's (FVAP) toll-free telephone service in 2008 for any of the following reasons? Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.
	Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item. Does not apply; I used the 2008-09 VAG TO QUESTION 40	Does not apply; I used the FVAP toll-free telephone service in 2008 ⇒ GO TO QUESTION 43
	No	No
	Yes	Yes
40 .	a. I did not know about it	a. I did not know about it
	Yes No ⇒ GO TO QUESTION 42	

OTHER SOURCES OF VOTING INFORMATION

43. If you received voting information from any of the following sources in 2008, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the information?

Mark one answer for each item.



44. If you used any of the following sources of voting information in 2008, how useful was each one? *Mark one answer for each item.*

					1	Not a	vaila	ble
					Did	not ι	ıse	
			Not	at a	ll use	ful		
		No	t ver	y use	ful			
	Some	ewha	t use	ful				
		Use	ful					
	Very use	eful						
a.	Voting Information News (VIN) newsletters		\times		\times		\times	
b.	Voting News Releases	\boxtimes	X	\boxtimes	X	\boxtimes	X	\boxtimes
C.	"It's your Future. VOTE for it!" or "Road Sign" motivational posters		\times		X		\times	
d.	Election dates		X		X		X	

					ı	Not a	vaila	ble
					Did	not ι	ıse	
			Not	at a	ll use	ful		
		No	t ver	y use	ful			
	Some	ewha	t use	eful				
		Use	ful					
	Very use	ful						
e.	How To Do It! Absentee Voting Frequently Asked Questions		∇				∇	
f.	Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)							
	Web site/CD ROM training	\boxtimes	X	\boxtimes	X	\boxtimes	X	\boxtimes
g.	"Get Out the Vote" public service ad campaign		X		X		X	

45. If you used the following sources to obtain any kind of voting information in 2008, how useful was each one? *Mark one answer for each item.*

					1	Not a	vaila	ble
					Did	not u	ıse	
			Not	at al	l use	ful		
		No	t ver	y use	ful			
	Some	wha	t use	ful				
		Use	ful					
	Very use	ful						
a.	Local television, radio and print media		X		\times		X	
b.	CNN International	\boxtimes	X	\boxtimes	X		X	\boxtimes
C.	Armed Forces Radio/TV	\boxtimes	X	\boxtimes	X		X	\boxtimes
d.	International Herald Tribune	\boxtimes	X	\boxtimes	X	\boxtimes	X	\boxtimes
e.	USA Today International	\times	X	\boxtimes	X	\boxtimes	\times	\boxtimes
f.	Other U.S. civilian newspapers, magazines,							
	radio, or TV	X	X	X	\times	X	X	X
g.	Family or friends				∇			
h.	The Internet							

ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION OF VOTING MATERIALS

46. Some states allow you to fax voting materials such as your absentee ballot request or the completed ballot itself. During 2008, did you fax any of the following materials? Mark one answer for each item.

	Yes, but not using the FVAP toll-free	e faxir servic	ng	No
Ye	s, using the FVAP toll-free faxing serv	ice		
a.	Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)		X	
b.	Non-Federal Post Card Application request for absentee ballot		X	
c.	Ballot	X	X	\boxtimes
d.	Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)		X	
e.	Other voting materials (If yes, please specify)		X	\boxtimes

47. Some states allow you to e-mail voting materials such as your absentee ballot request or the completed ballot itself. During 2008, did you e-mail any of the following materials?

Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.

			No
		Yes	
a. b.	Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) Non-Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) request for absentee ballot	🖂	
c.	Ballot		\times
d. e.	Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) Other voting materials (<i>If yes, please specify</i>)		

2006 ELECTION

48.	Elections for the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of
	Representatives were held in 2006. A lot of
	respondents did not get to vote because they
	weren't registered, they were sick, or they just
	didn't have time. How about you did you
	vote in that election?

X	Yes
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49. In the November 2006 election, did you definitely vote in person, definitely mail in a completed absentee ballot, definitely not vote, or are you not sure whether you voted in that election?

\times	Definitely	voted i	n person
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COMMENTS

50. In the space below, please provide any comments you have about this questionnaire, the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), or the absentee voting process in 2008.